

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE

November 10, 2004 9am

Country Inn/Suites

5353 North 27th

Lincoln, Nebraska

Committee Members present: Dr. Subhash Bhatia, Ann Ebsen, Topher Hansen, Linda Krutz, Dr. Delinda Mercer, Brenda Miner, Jane Morgan, Laura Richards, Kathy Seacrest, Ron Sorensen, Wehnona St. Cyr.

Committee Members absent: Jerome Barry.

HHS Staff present: Barbara Thomas, Dennis Snook, Phyllis McCaul, Nancy Herdman, Betty Alm.

Guests present: Mark Yoakum.

Dennis Snook called the meeting to order. A Committee membership list was distributed and members were asked to make any revisions. Office Staff will update the list and also include term dates.

The meeting was opened up for input from Committee members regarding the meeting process. Agendas have in the past been sent out at least one week in advance of the meeting dates. The Committee Chairperson works with Office staff in putting together the agenda. Committee recommendations are reviewed at the end of each meeting with follow-up at the next meeting.

Q: Do we need ground rules?

A: No.

Q: Any parameters on public input?

A: The Chairperson can set limits at the beginning of each meeting, e.g. time limits, etc.

INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present introduced themselves. Eleven Committee members were present.

NOTE: Jerome Barry was unable to attend today, however, he expressed his interest in being considered to serve on the Behavioral Health Council.

APPROVE BYLAWS

(Copies of the By-Laws 10-26-04 for review are in the Committee notebook provided to Committee members)

Dennis explained much of the content of the ByLaws came from the LB1083 statutes.

Discussion:

Article III – Membership

Length of Term – Four of the initial members appointed by the Governor shall serve for three years. Four of the initial members appointed by the Governor shall serve for two years, and four of the initial members for one year. As the terms of the initial members expire, their successors shall be appointed for terms of three years. (NOTE: length of term will be included on the updated Committee membership list)

Article V – Officers
Section 4

Executive Committee: The Committee shall consist of Chairperson, ViceChairperson and Secretary. The Chairperson may call the Executive Committee together with approval of the Division.

Q: Why does the Chairperson need to have approval of the Division?

A: Barb Thomas explained the Division approval is needed for travel and for the Office staff taking minutes at the meetings. Many approvals of the Division are indicated in statute.

The ByLaws will be revised to state: “agreement of the Division.”

Article VII – Committees

With the written approval of the Division, the Chairperson may appoint or otherwise establish ad-hoc task forces comprised of Committee and non-committee members.

Discussion: Revise to state: “With written agreement of the Division, the Chairperson may appoint or otherwise establish ad-hoc task forces comprised of committee and non-committee members to accomplish a specific task which is relevant to the purpose of the Committee. The Chairperson will notify the Council.”

ELECT OFFICERS

At this time, the meeting was opened up for Election of Officers:

Article V - Officers

Committee members were given the opportunity to express their interest in becoming one of the Officers.

Chairperson

MOTION: Jane Morgan made the MOTION to nominate Kathy Seacrest as Committee Chairperson.

SECOND: Brenda Miner.

ACTION: Voice vote. MOTION carried.

Today’s meeting was turned over to Chairperson, Kathy Seacrest.

Vice Chairperson

MOTION: Jane Morgan made the MOTION to nominate Ann Ebsen as Vice Chairperson.

SECOND: Laura Richards.

ACTION: Voice Vote. MOTION carried.

Secretary

Discussion: Kathy Seacrest suggested the Secretary review the Committee meeting minutes with the Office Secretary.

Dr. Bhatia volunteered to serve as Committee Secretary. VOICE VOTE by Committee members unanimously elected Dr. Bhatia the Committee Secretary.

BYLAWS (cont'd.)

Thank you to Office Staff for reviewing the ByLaws.

MOTION: Dr Bhatia made the MOTION to approve the ByLaws with recommended changes as previously listed.

SECOND: Wehnona St. Cyr.

ACTION: Voice Vote. MOTION carried.

NOTE: The approved ByLaws will be sent to Committee members to replace the ByLaws (10-26-04) in the Committee notebooks.

Committee members are encouraged to contact Kathy Seacrest or Dennis Snook with any agenda items.

ELECT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL MEMBERS

The three Committee members appointed by the Governor to the Council:

- Kathy Seacrest
- Dr. Delinda Mercer
- Ron Sorensen

Chairperson Kathy Seacrest asked for volunteers interested in serving on the Council. Ten Committee members are to serve on the Council.

Committee members who agreed to serve on the Behavioral Health Council:

- Topher Hansen
- Brenda Miner
- Dr. Bhatia
- Wehnona St. Cyr
- Ann Ebsen
- Jane Morgan
- Jerome Barry

Governor's Appointments:

- Ron Sorensen
- Kathy Seacrest
- Dr. Mercer

VOICE VOTE was unanimous to recommend the above list of Committee members to serve on the Council. MOTION carried.

Chairperson Kathy Seacrest suggested using the agenda format used by the State Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Committee.

Suggestions for agenda items:

Division Updates, Reports, Substance Abuse Issues, Licensure Issues, Training, Prevention, Treatment, Mission, e.g. access, prevention and treatment, Quality, Best Practices, Education of Providers, Education and Research, Tribal Issues, Updates from Regions, Improve Access, Report on Oversight Commission (Topher Hansen).

Q: What about Medicaid?

A: Will be put on this Committee's agenda.

VISION AND VALUES

Topher Hansen mentioned what do we want this picture to look like and what is the

Plan in each region and how are they doing; some do not have providers; facilitate a master level plan and relate back to this Committee.

Topher suggested a subgroup do an action plan on substance abuse. He mentioned being involved in a Lincoln pilot group involving criminal justice, prevention, treatment looking at stigma and training for primary medical staff. Maybe doing statewide training.

Chairperson Kathy Seacrest explained previously the SADAAC advised the Director of HHS. The recommendations now go to Richard DeLiberty. An annual report goes to the Governor.

We will continue to make recommendations at these Committee meetings.

REPORT FROM REGULATIONS & LICENSURE

At this time, Chairperson Kathy Seacrest introduced Nancy Herdman. Alcohol/Drug counselor certification is now licensing at Regulations and Licensure. Nancy will not attend these Committee meetings in the future unless a particular issue relating to Regulations & Licensure is to be discussed.

-As of July 1, 2004, alcohol/drug counselor certification transferred to Regulations and Licensure:

Certified Provisional Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselors (CPADACs) are now
Provisional Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselors (PLADCs)

Certified Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselors (CADACs) are now Licensed Alcohol
& Drug Counselors (LADCs)

-The Board of Alcohol and Drug Counseling has been appointed and met for the first time in October. Nine members: two public members; six alcohol and drug counselors (three can be dually credentialed); a psychologist, physician or mental health practitioner.

-The nine members are: Jerome Barry, Kathy Schinker, Alfredo Ramirez, Marlene Schneider, Susan Boust, Randy Coslor, Chrisella Lewis, Jay Conrad and William Mulligan.

-Title 209 statutes will be followed except where there is a difference between regulations and statutes. There are a few differences:

Scope of practice – must refer a person with co-occurring mental disorders unless the person is under the care of or been assessed and diagnosed by an appropriate practitioner within a reasonable amount of time. A mailing went out to the field but the differences were not detailed.

Must hold a Provisional Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor (PLADC) in order to count work experience towards Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor (LADC).

Practical training supervisor can be a licensed physician or psychologist but must have specialized training in alcohol and drug counseling and the 12 core functions sufficient to protect the public. The Board will be working on determining what specialized training is needed.

Work experience degree substitution for Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor (LADC) – an Associates degree in addictions and chemical dependency may be substituted for 1000 hours of work experience.

Work experience clinical supervisor – can be a licensed physician or psychologist who has specialized training in alcohol and drug counseling and the 12 core functions sufficient to protect the public.

Applicants take an oral test and written test; oral evaluators are not Board members. The oral exam is scheduled in November – 18 applicants for PLADC; LADC.

Q: Topher Hansen asked if disciplinary practice the same as with Drs., nurses, etc.?

A: Yes, the same process. Disciplinary action info. is on the Website – www.hhs.state.ne.us/crl/crLindex.htm

Complaints regarding an alcohol/drug counselor first go to Investigations (471-0175) and then to the Board and on to Regulations & Licensure.

Q: Any anonymity for the person reporting the complaint?

A: No.

Approved CEUs are on the Website. Process is the same for submitting approval of CEUs. Two-year cycle is 50 hours and has to occur during the licensing period.

ACTION: Kathy Seacrest suggested a mailing go out to the field notifying all of these changes.

MOTION: Dr. Bhatia made the MOTION that the list of differences in Title 209 regulations and the statutes highlighting the changes be sent to all licensed professionals and programs; also any educational programs, e.g. colleges.

SECOND: Brenda Miner

ACTION: Voice vote. MOTION carried.

Chairperson, Kathy Seacrest will send this request to Kris Chiles at Regulations and Licensure.

Q: Dennis Snook asked about reciprocity with other states?

A: Nancy explained R&L is now a member of the International Certification Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC). ICRC sets standards for alcohol/drug counselors. State standards have to match national standards.

System processes

-Application deadlines, Board meetings, testing dates are the same schedule.

-PLADC and LADC will renew on September 1 of even numbered years. Exception: LB1083 allowed for extension of renewal dates when it became effective July 1, 2004. Some renewals were extended to September 1, 2005 and others to September 1, 2006 depending upon the original expiration date. All have current license with correct expiration date.

-There has been no change in the fees between certification and licensing. The Board will be evaluating this issue. In the future, the application will be on the Website.

The LIS system will show what license they hold. Topher Hansen mentioned it would be helpful if all names could be filtered by county, license, etc. Nancy explained names/addresses can be obtained if you pay.

Thank you to Nancy Herdman for her presentation.

OTHER

Q: Wehnona St. Cyr asked about the Governor's Meth. Summit report.

A: Dennis mentioned this report will be sent to Committee members.

Q: Wehnona St. Cyr asked if there was any tribal representative at the Summit?

A: Dennis explained this was invitation only, sponsored by the NE State Patrol, but we are sure there was representation.

NEXT MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 8, 2005

Q: Will all meetings be held in Lincoln?

A: Dennis explained that due to budget cuts, for now all meetings will be held in Lincoln.

May recommend to the BH Council in February to meet in other locations in the future.

Agenda items should be sent to the Chairperson, Kathy Seacrest or Dennis Snook by January 20, 2005. Agenda will be E-Mailed to Committee members and on the Website.

Kathy Seacrest asked that all regional summaries by Committee members be put in writing.

Committee members are asked to notify the Division if they cannot attend the meeting. A representative can attend, but cannot vote.

MEETING ADJOURNED.